

No. 743,454.

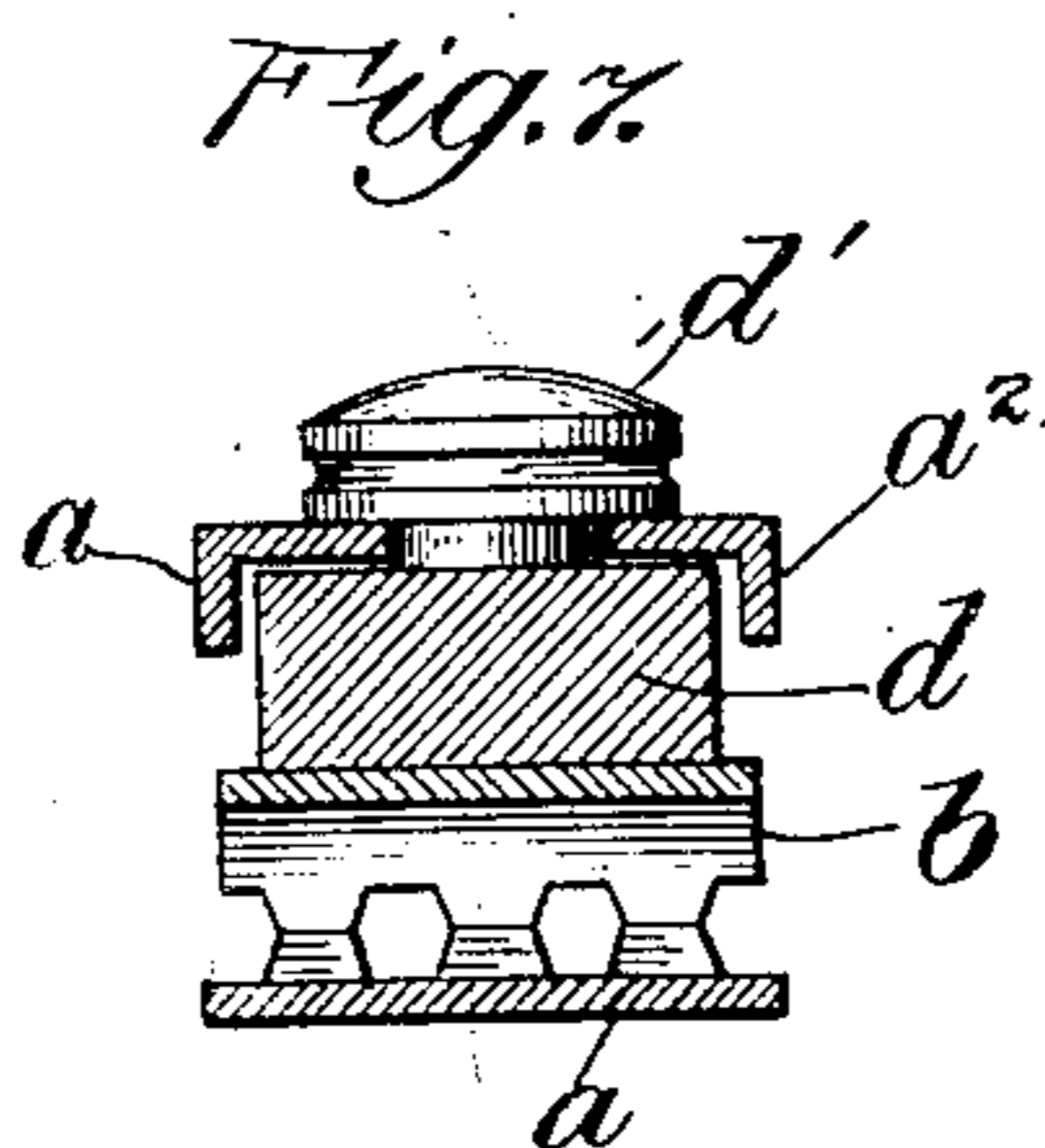
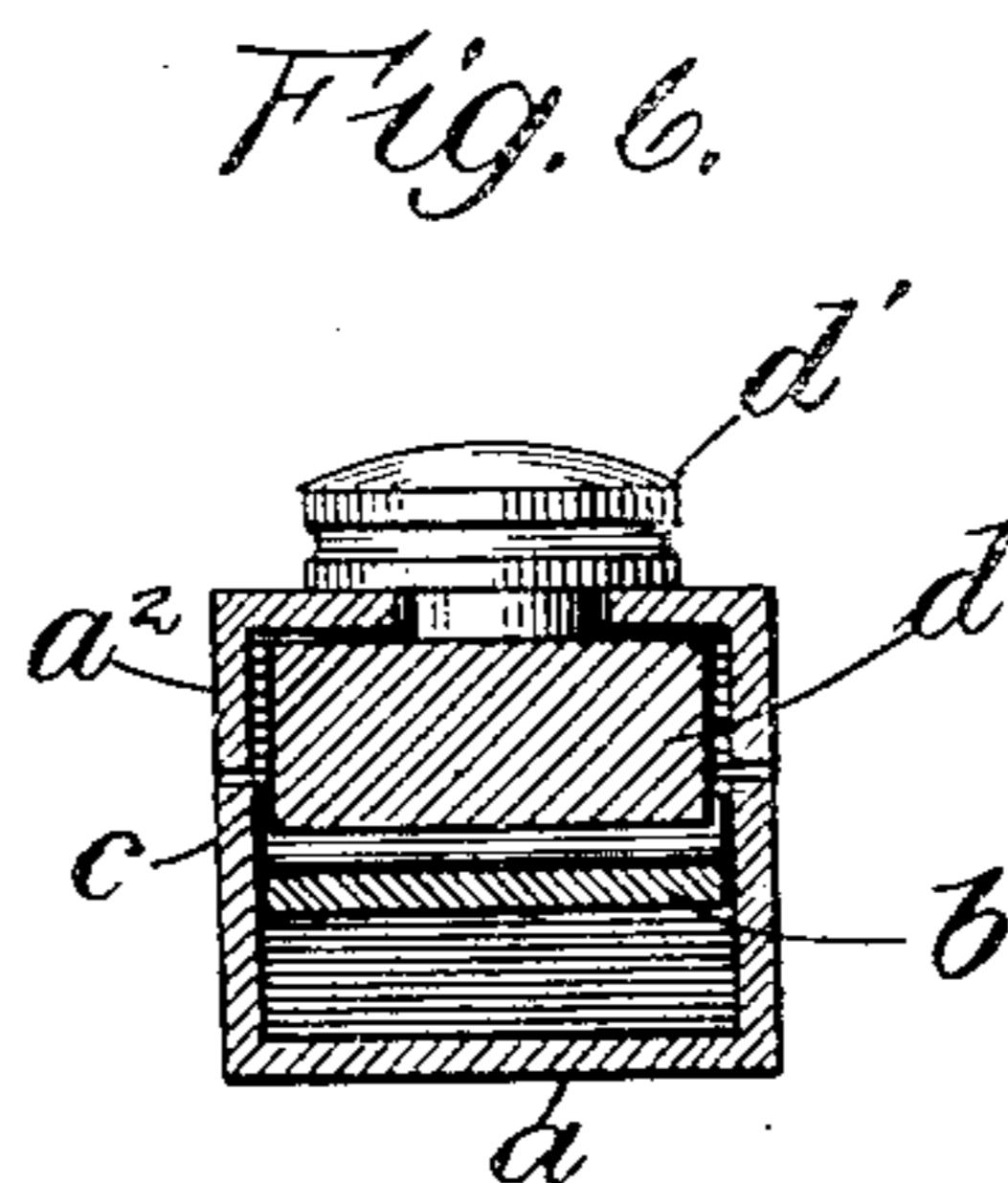
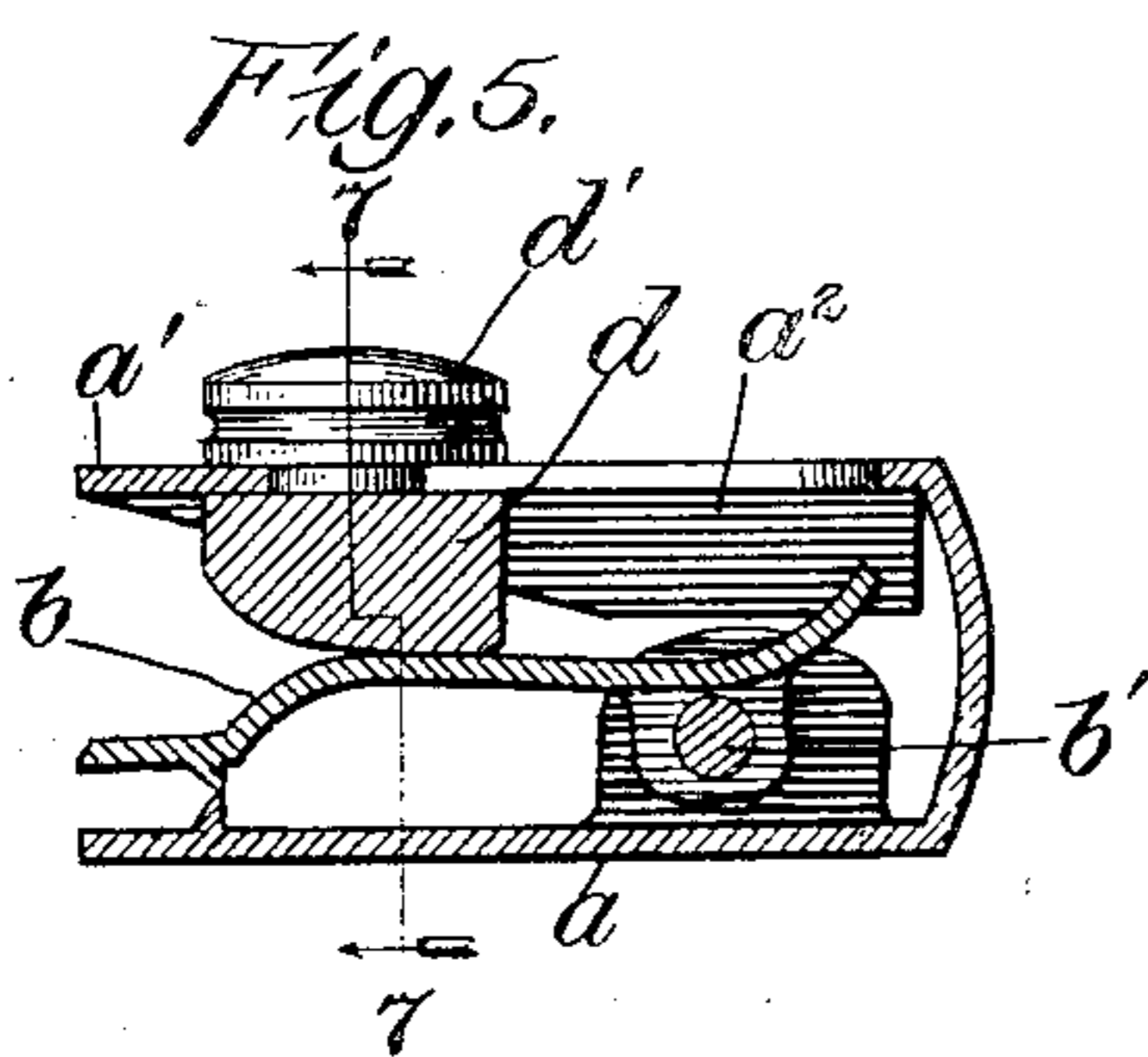
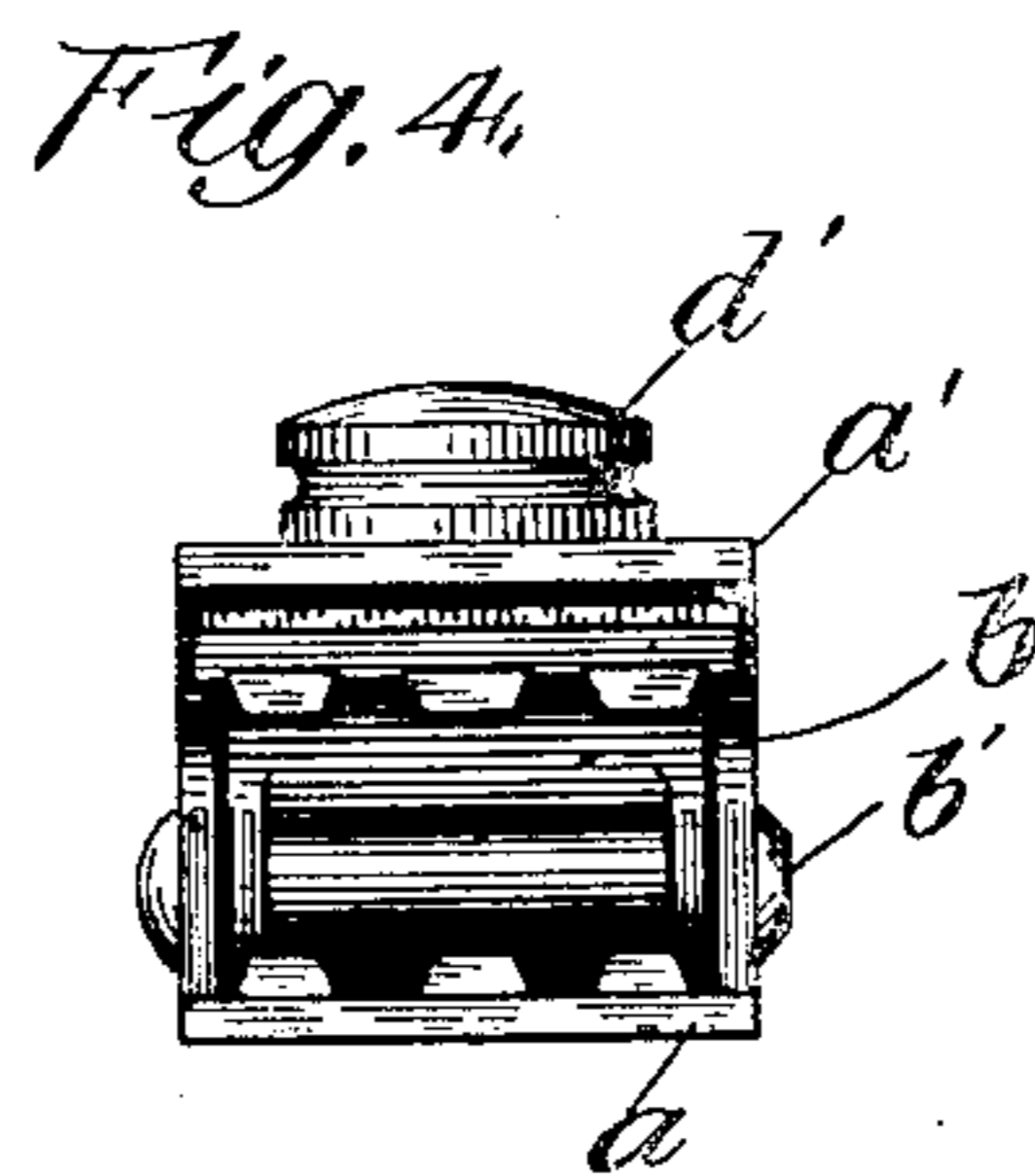
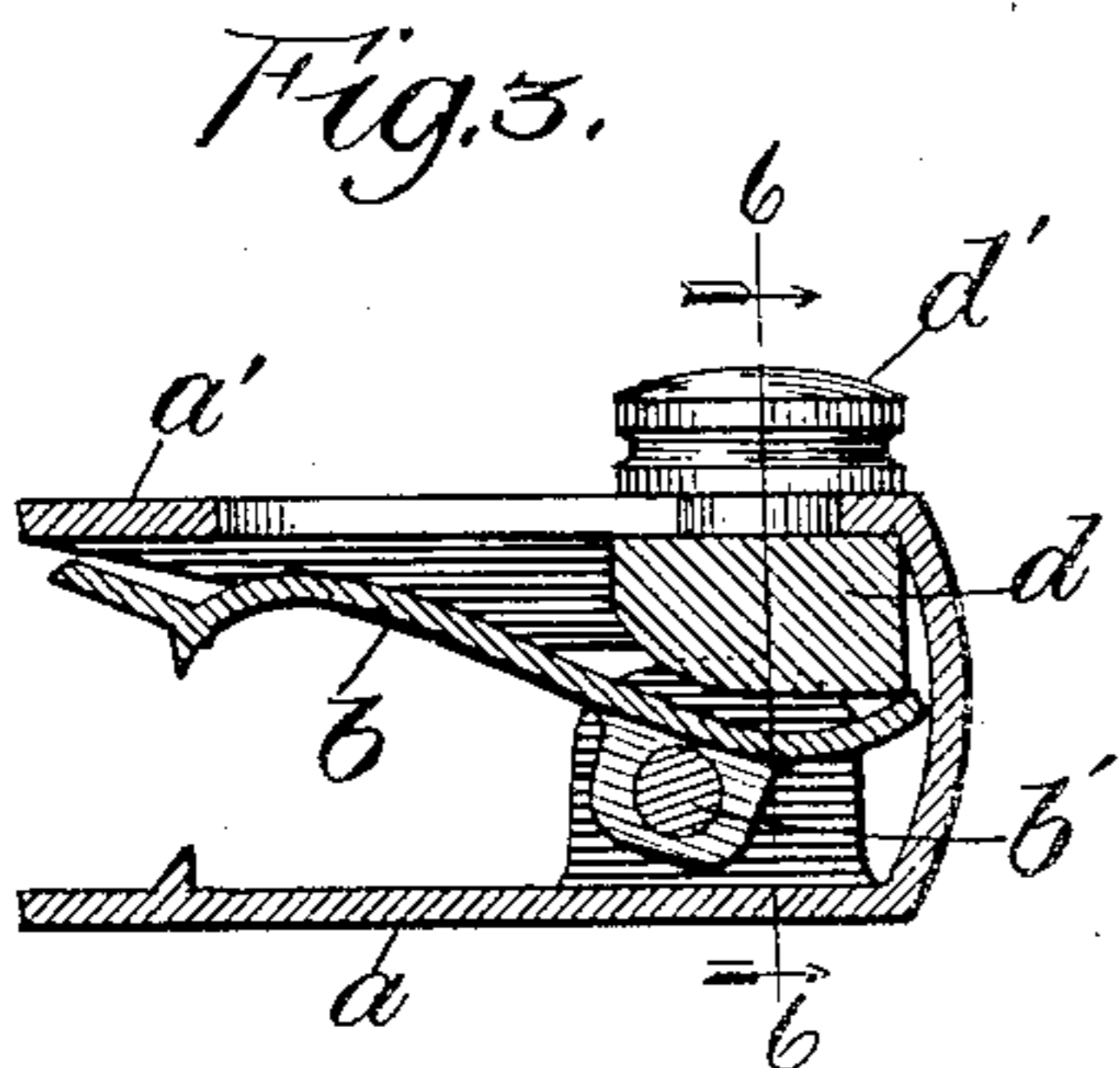
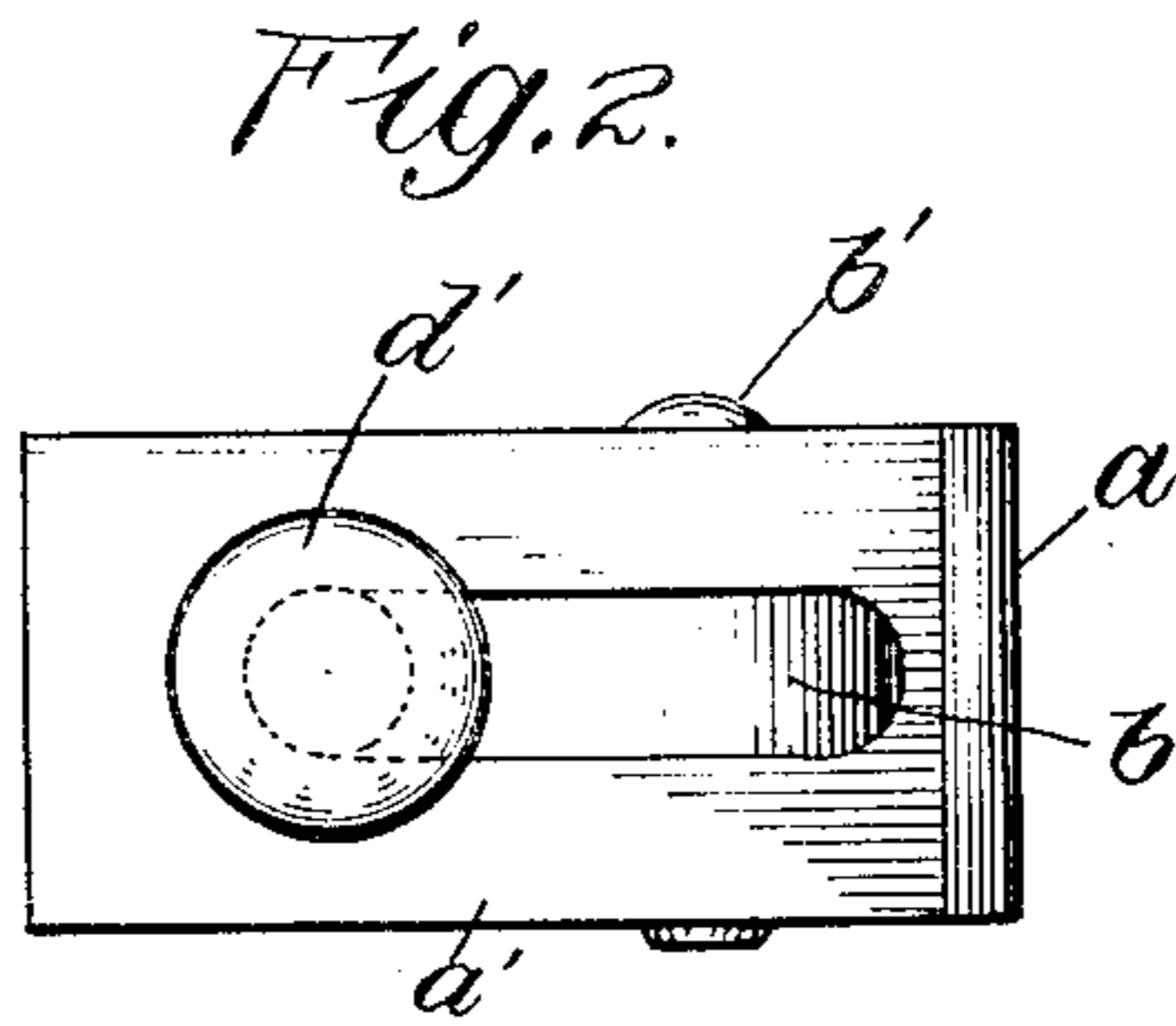
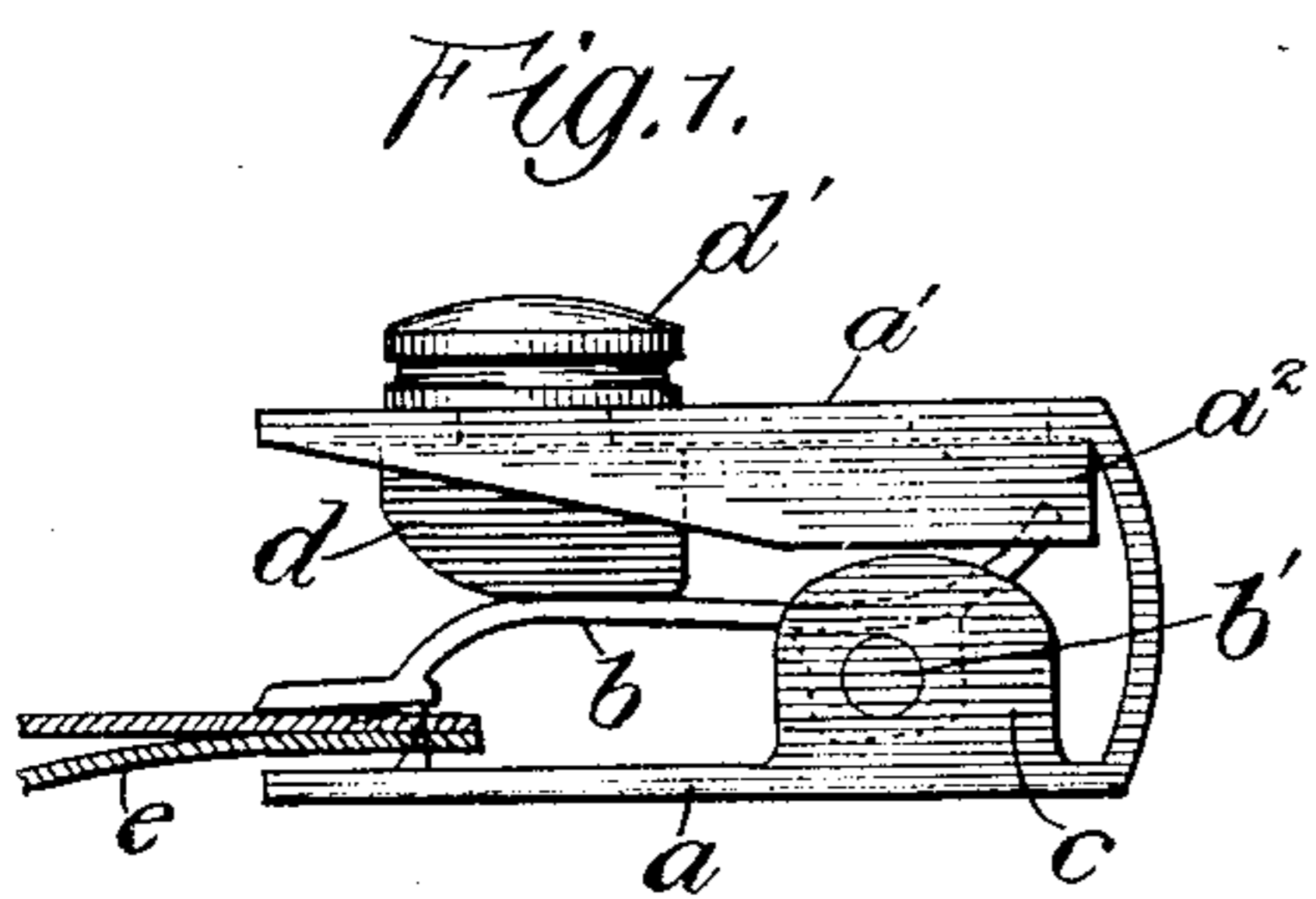
PATENTED NOV. 10, 1903.

C. H. COHN.

CLASP.

APPLICATION FILED MAR. 7, 1903.

NO MODEL.



Witnesses:  
*Wm. Hennrich*  
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# UNITED STATES PATENT OFFICE.

CHARLES H. COHN, OF CHICAGO, ILLINOIS.

## CLASP.

**SPECIFICATION** forming part of Letters Patent No. 743,454, dated November 10, 1903.

Application filed March 7, 1903. Serial No. 146,670. (No model.)

*To all whom it may concern:*

Be it known that I, CHARLES H. COHN, a citizen of the United States, residing at Chicago, in the county of Cook and State of Illinois, have invented a certain new and useful Improvement in Clasps, (Case No. 1,) of which the following is a full, clear, concise, and exact description.

My invention relates to clasps of the kind used for tie-holders, cuff-holders, hose-supporters, and the like; and its object is to provide an improved device of extremely simple construction which may be easily and quickly applied or removed and which when closed upon a fabric will be extremely efficient as a clasp and not liable to accidental loosening.

I will describe my invention in connection with the accompanying drawings, which illustrate the preferred embodiment thereof on an enlarged scale.

Figure 1 is a side elevation of the clasp. Fig. 2 is a plan view thereof. Fig. 3 is a vertical sectional elevation showing the jaws open. Fig. 4 is an end view, the jaws being open. Fig. 5 is a vertical sectional elevation similar to Fig. 3, but showing the jaws closed. Fig. 6 is a cross-sectional view on line 6 6 of Fig. 3, and Fig. 7 is a cross-sectional view on line 7 7 of Fig. 5.

The same letters of reference are used to designate the same parts wherever they are shown.

In the device shown in the drawings a U-shaped frame *a* is provided, of which the lower arm is formed to constitute a stationary jaw cooperating with a movable jaw *b*, which is formed by a rocking lever pivoted upon a pin *b'*, supported in the upturned ends or standards *c c*, formed at the sides of said lower arm. The upper arm *a'* of the frame extends forward over the movable jaw. A wedge-block *d* is arranged to slide to and fro between the under side of the upper arm and the top of the movable-jaw lever *b* to actuate said jaw-lever. The wedge-block is provided with a button *d'*, the shank whereof passes through a slot in the upper arm *a'* of the frame. Said arm *a'* may be provided with downwardly-projecting webs *a<sup>1</sup> a<sup>2</sup>* at the sides, which serve both to stiffen said arm and also as guides for the sliding wedge-block.

The pivotal axis *b'* of the movable-jaw le-

ver is not at the extreme rear of the frame, but at an intermediate point, and the movable-jaw lever is provided with a rearward extension sloping upward behind the pivotal axis. When the wedge-block is moved rearwardly past the axis *b'*, it engages the said upturned rearward extension, whereby the jaws are positively opened, the movable jaw *b* being rocked upon its pivot to the position shown in Fig. 3. When the wedge-block is moved forward, it presses upon the top of the movable-jaw lever and positively closes the same upon the cooperating jaw formed by the lower arm *a* of the frame, so that a fabric *e*, interposed between said jaws, is securely clamped, as shown in Fig. 1. The jaws may be roughened or furnished with teeth or any other desired gripping-surfaces.

The forward portion of the movable-jaw lever *b* is preferably arched, as shown, so that it will have a little spring or elasticity to accommodate itself to some extent to varying thicknesses of fabric. The forward edge of the wedge-block is preferably rounded off, as shown, to slide more easily over the top of the movable-jaw lever.

It will be appreciated that the device above described is extremely simple and may be manufactured at small cost. No springs are necessary, the jaws being positively opened and closed by the movement of the sliding wedge-block. Very little force is required to move the wedge-block in closing the jaws together. When closed, they hold the interposed fabric very tightly; but only a slight pressure upon the button *d'* of the sliding wedge-block is required to open said jaws. An objection to clamps heretofore in use has been that considerable force has been required to open and close them, and in devices so small it is difficult to apply this pressure without hurting the fingers.

It will be understood that the form of my clasp may be varied to a considerable extent without departing from the spirit of the invention herein disclosed.

Having described the preferred embodiments of my said invention, I claim—

1. In a clasp, the combination with the U-shaped frame, of a movable jaw pivoted between the arms of said frame, the lower arm of said frame forming a fixed jaw cooperating

ing with said movable jaw, and a wedge-block arranged to slide to and fro between the other arm of said frame and the movable jaw, substantially as set forth.

5 2. In a clasp, the combination with a U-shaped frame, of a movable jaw pivoted between the arms of said frame, the lower arm being formed to constitute a stationary jaw cooperating with said movable jaw, a rear-  
10 ward extension for said movable jaw, sloping upward beyond the pivotal axis thereof, and a wedge-block arranged to slide to and fro

on the under side of the upper arm to press upon the top of the movable jaw on either side of its pivotal axis, whereby the jaw is 15 positively actuated by the movement of said block.

In witness whereof I hereunto subscribe my name this 5th day of March, A. D. 1903.

CHARLES H. COHN.

Witnesses:

DE WITT C. TANNER,  
ALBERT STEIN.